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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: July 23, 2020

SOUTHEAST ALASKA SALMON DRIFT GILLNET FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Section 1-B: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 26, through 12:00 noon, Thursday, July 30, 2020, in those waters south of 54°54.50′ N lat. (approximately 1.0 nautical mile (nmi) south of Foggy Point), with the following restriction:

Pearse and Portland Canals: will be closed north of the latitude of Akeku Point at 54°50.03′ N lat.

District 6: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 26, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, July 28, 2020, with the following restrictions:

Section 6-D: will be closed north and east of a line from Point Nesbitt at 56°13.93′ N lat, 132°52.35′ W long to Nesbitt Reef Light at 56°13.22′ N lat, 132°51.84′ W long to Mariposa Rock Buoy at 56°10.68′ N lat, 132°44.36′ W long to the northernmost tip of Point Harrington at 56°10.27′ N lat, 132°43.57′ W long to a point on Etolin Island at 56°09.60′ N lat, 132°42.70′ W long to the southernmost tip of Point Stanhope at 56°00.69′ N lat, 132°36.47′ W long and south of a line from Point Stanhope to Luck Point at 55°59.05′ N lat, 132°44.08′ W long;

Salmon Bay: will be closed west of a line from Point Colpoys at 56°20.18′ N lat, 132°11.90′ W long to Rookery Island Light at 56°18.85′ N lat, 133°06.34′ W long to the westernmost tip of Fire Island at 56°14.04′ N lat, 132°03.59′ W long to a point on Prince of Wales Island at 56°14.04′ N lat, 132°04.41′ W long.

District 8: will be closed.

Section 11-B: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 26, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, July 28, 2020, with the following restrictions:

<u>Taku Inlet</u>: will be closed west of a line from Point Bishop at 58°11.99′ N lat, 134°09.01′ W long to the Point Arden Light at 58°09.55′ N lat, 134°10.68′ W long;

<u>Limestone Inlet</u>: will be closed east of a line from a point on the north shore at 58°02.03′ N lat, 133°59.59′ W long to a point on the south shore at 58°01.72′ N lat, 133°59.43′ W long (outside markers);

<u>Port Snettisham</u>: will be closed east of a line from Point Styleman at 57°58.42′ N lat, 133°53.93′ W long to Point Anmer at 57°56.07′ N lat, 133°51.05′ W long.

The Point Bishop area in Section 11-B has been closed at the request of DIPAC to conserve chum salmon needed for broodstock.

Section 15-A: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 26, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, July 28, 2020, with the following restrictions:

<u>Lynn Canal</u>: will be closed north of the latitude of **Seduction Point at 59°04.93' N lat, 135°18.48' W long** and west of a line from **Seduction Point to** Eldred Rock Light at 58°58.25' N lat, 135°13.26' W long to a point 2.0 nmi from the eastern shoreline at 58°50.80' N lat, 135°12.77' W long (the latitude of Sherman Rock);

Gillnet mesh restriction: maximum allowed mesh size is six inches;

Night closure: closed between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 4:00 a.m.

Section 15-C: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 26, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, July 28, 2020, with the following restrictions:

Lynn Canal: will be closed north of the latitude of Point Bridget at 58°40.73′ N lat;

St. James Bay: will be closed north of line from a regulatory marker at 58°33.44′ N lat, 135°09.44′ W long, to Point Whidbey at 58°34.40′ N lat, 135°08.36′ W long.

Section 15-C: Boat Harbor Terminal Harvest Area (THA) outer waters east of 135°09.57′ W long will be open within 1.0 nmi of the western shoreline of Lynn Canal south of the latitude of Danger Point at 58°41.75′ N lat, and north of the latitude of a regulatory marker at 58°36.96′ N lat, 135°08.40′ W long, from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 26, 2020, until further notice.

There will be no night closures or mesh restrictions in effect in Section 15-C.

Section 15-C: Boat Harbor THA inner waters west of 135°09.57′ W long remains open until further notice.

Please code harvests for the inside waters of the Boat Harbor THA to statistical area 115-12.

Fishermen and processors are reminded that all salmon, including steelhead, commercially harvested but retained for personal use and not sold, must be reported on fish tickets at the time of delivery.

To date, only 873 sockeye salmon have been counted at the Hugh Smith Lake weir. The current weir count projects to a total escapement of 3,800 sockeye salmon, well below the optimal escapement goal range of 8,000–18,000 sockeye salmon. The department will continue to monitor the sockeye salmon escapement as the season progresses and may continue to take management actions in District 1 through statistical week 33.

The Section 1-B drift gillnet fishery is currently being managed according to the District 1 Pink Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 33.360). The District 1 purse seine fishery is expected to receive at least two days of fishing time during statistical week 31. Therefore, the Section 1-B drift gillnet fishery will be given four days of fishing time. If the District 1 purse seine fishery is open for more than two days during statistical week 31, the fishing time in Section 1-B will be extended accordingly.

All Chinook salmon harvested in the commercial drift gillnet fisheries may be retained and sold. Chinook salmon less than 28 inches in length and those of Alaska hatchery origin will not be counted against Southeast Alaska's all gear harvest limit of the Pacific Salmon Treaty. Therefore, fishermen and tenders are requested to keep Chinook salmon harvested in THAs separate from those harvested in traditional fishing areas. Separating these harvests will allow for better accounting of harvests and assist in sampling the harvests to identify Alaska hatchery-produced Chinook salmon.

Under Alaska's Health Mandates 10, 17, and 18, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates. COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S3320.

Southeast Alaska Drift Gillnet Harvest Estimates Statistical Week 30 (July 19 through July 25) Preliminary Estimates Compiled July 23, 2020

NUMBER OF SALMON Days District Chinook Sockeye Coho Pink Chum Total **Boats** Open District 1 300 1,600 1,000 22,000 30,000 54,900 30 4 8,000 District 6 25 1,000 900 10,000 17,547 43 2 80 District 11 150 9,500 19,000 49,450 3 800 20,000 District 15 125 8,000 1,000 20,000 72,000 101,125 112 4 Total 600 20,100 3,700 69,000 132,000 233,022

FISH PER BOAT FOR THE PERIOD

District	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total
District 1	10	53	33	733	1,000	1,830
District 6	1	23	21	186	233	408
District 11	2	119	10	238	250	618
District 15	1	71	9	179	643	903

Deep Inlet THA harvest to date: 3,500 Chinook and 65,000 chum salmon.

Advisory Announcement web site: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main.

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